

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A headgear comprising:
 - an inner core of resilient, impact-reducing material, said core having cavities therein;
 - an outer shell overlying said core, with overlying portions of said shell being spaced from said cavities, said outer shell having a substantially opaque outer surface except for at least two windows that are disposed in said overlying portions;
 - a plurality of light sources supplying a plurality of lighting elements, said light sources being disposed in said cavities, so as to be viewed through the respective windows;
 - timing circuitry for timing the on-off operation of the lighting elements within the light sources, so as to create an effect of motion of the illumination within each window; and
 - at least one graphical image that is disposed in alignment with each of said windows, said graphical image being disposed on at least one of:
 - said windows,
 - said light sources, and
 - substrates supporting said light sources; and
 - wherein said graphical image is illuminated by said light sources so as to be viewed externally to said headgear.
2. The headgear of claim 1, wherein the windows each have the shape of a flame.
3. The headgear of claim 2, wherein the light sources provide lights of different colors.
4. The headgear of claim 2, wherein the light source provide lights of a same color.

5. The headgear of claim 1, wherein the windows have an area at least three times the area of any light-emitting element contained within the light source.

6. The headgear of claim 5, wherein the light sources provide lights of different colors.

7. The headgear of claim 5, wherein the light source provide lights of a same color.

8. The headgear of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, wherein each light source is super-bright, wide-based, low-profiled, having a wide angle of view, with a plurality of lights, and including timing circuitry enabling the lights to flash in a timed mode of operation.

9. The headgear of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 wherein the timed operation produces a strobing of the lighting elements.

10. The headgear of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, wherein the light sources are encapsulated in at least one lighting panel by a light-transmissive encapsulating material.

11. The headgear of claim 1, further including at least two circuit supporting substrates disposed in respective cavities beneath said windows for supporting the light sources.

12. The headgear of claim 10, wherein the circuit supporting substrates are flexible.

13. The headgear of claim 1, further comprising a battery source of power for supplying power to the light sources.

14. The headgear of claim 1, further comprising two windows which are at least translucent and are located at a front and back of the headgear, respectively, and light sources being positioned inside of said respective windows at the front and back for being seen through said windows.

15. The headgear of claim 1, wherein the outer shell of plastic is made of a translucent, white or clear material and is coated with a coating of opaque color that forms the translucent windows having graphical configurations.

16. The headgear of claim 14, wherein the outer shell is releasably secured to the inner core.

17. The headgear of claim 1, wherein the headgear has a smooth outer surface and aerodynamic shape with the light sources disposed in said cavities so as not to project into the outer surface of the headgear.